**Exploration of new crude oil wells**

119. SHRI PRABHAKAR RAO KALVALA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some more crude oil wells have been found in the country during the last one year;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) what is the estimated quantity of crude likely to be available from each well;

(d) whether exploration work on new wells has been commenced; and

(e) if not, by when the exploration work is likely to commence?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) During 1990-91 new oil discoveries have been made in Sangampur in Cambay basin, Mori in Krishna Godavari Offshore, R-15A, B-126, B-192 in Bombay Offshore, Dikam, Hapjan-7 in Assam and Kumchai-5 in Arunachal Pradesh.

(c) The availability of crude from these discoveries is yet to be fully assessed.

(d) Delineation drilling which is part of exploration is going on to assess the full potential of these structures.

(e) Does not arise.

**Sale of Centaur Group of Hotels**

120. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY:
DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are planning to sell the Centaur Group of Hotels and appoint Agents to handle the sales; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARMOHAN DHAWAN): (a) and (b). The Board of Air-India has decided that the Hotel Corporation of India should seek equity collaboration with an internationally reputed hotel chain willing to take over the marketing and management of the Hotel Corporation of India. This has become necessary on account of the high losses suffered by the Hotel Corporation of India and its inability to compete effectively in the market.

**Recovery of dues from State Electricity Boards**

121. SHRI M. S. GURUPADASAMY:
SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA:
SHRI SARADA MOHANTY:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank has asked the NTPC and NHPC to recover the dues from the State Electricity Boards failing which more funds would not be given;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what is Government reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI BABANRAO DHAKNE): (a) to(c) Under existing covenants and agreements entered into with the World Bank by the National thermal Power Corporation and the National Hydro-Electric Power Corporation for various projects it is obligatory for these Corporation to contain the amount of receivables from State Electricity Boards within mutually agreed limits.